

CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. A communication system comprising:

5 a dedicated processing system configured to generate and transfer a first call setup message;

10 a call processing system configured to receive and process the first call setup message to select a first identifier, generate and transfer a first instruction indicating the first identifier and a dedicated communication, receive and process a second call setup message to select a second identifier, and generate and transfer a second instruction indicating the second identifier and a switched communication; and

15 an interworking system configured to receive the first instruction, the second instruction, and a bundled communication including the dedicated communication and the switched communication, separate the dedicated communication from the switched communication, convert the dedicated communication into first packets including the first identifier in response to the first instruction, convert the switched communication into second packets including the second identifier in response to the second instruction, and transfer the first packets and the second packets.

20 2. The communication system of claim 1 wherein:

20 the dedicated processing system is configured to generate and transfer a first call release message;

25 the call processing system is configured to receive and process the first call release message to generate and transfer a third instruction indicating the first identifier for release, and receive and process a second release message to generate and transfer a fourth instruction indicating the second identifier for release; and

the interworking system is configured to receive the third instruction and the fourth instruction, stop the transfer of the first packets in response to the third message, and stop the transfer of the fourth packets in response to the fourth instruction.

3. The communication system of claim 1 wherein a first time difference between the first call setup message and the first call release message is greater than twenty four hours and a second time difference between the second call setup message and the second call release message is less than three hours.

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4. The communication system of claim 1 wherein the dedicated processing system comprises a graphical user interface and the first call setup message is generated and transferred in response to a first user command from the graphical user interface and the second call release message is generated and transferred in response to a second user command from the graphical user
10 interface.

5. The communication system of claim 4 wherein the first user command and the second user command are received in the graphical user interface from a remote location.

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6. The communication system of claim 1 wherein the first call setup message is an initial address message and the second call setup message is an initial address message.

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7. The communication system of claim 1 wherein the dedicated communication is a data communication.

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8. The communication system of claim 1 wherein the dedicated communication is a private line communication.

9. The communication system of claim 1 wherein the dedicated communication is an internet protocol communication.

10. The communication system of claim 1 wherein the dedicated communication is a frame relay communication.

11. The communication system of claim 1 wherein the switched communication is a voice communication.

12. A method of operating a communication system, the method comprising:

5 generating and transferring a first call setup message in a dedicated processing system;
receiving the first call setup message in a call processing system and processing the first call setup message to select a first identifier, generate a first instruction indicating the first identifier and a dedicated communication and transfer the first instruction;
10 receiving a second call setup message in the call processing system and processing the second call setup message to select a second identifier, generate a second instruction indicating the second identifier and a switched communication and transfer the second instruction;
receiving the first instruction, the second instruction, and a bundled communication including the dedicated communication and the switched communication in an interworking system; and
15 separating the dedicated communication from the switched communication;
converting the dedicated communication into first packets including the first identifier in response to the first instruction;
converting the switched communication into second packets including the second identifier in response to the second instruction; and
20 transferring the first packets and the second packets.

13. The method of claim 12 the method further comprising:

generating and transferring a first call release message in the dedicated call processing system;
25 receiving the first call release message in the call processing system and processing the first call release message to generate and transfer a third instruction indicating the first identifier for release; and
receiving the third instruction in the interworking system and processing the third instruction to stop the transfer of the first packets.

14. The method of claim 13 the method further comprising:

receiving a second call release message in the call processing system and processing the second call release message to generate and transfer a fourth instruction indicating the second identifier for release; and

5 receiving the fourth instruction in the interworking system and processing the fourth instruction to stop the transfer of the second packets.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein a first time difference between the first call setup message and the first call release message is greater than twenty four hours and a second first time
10 difference between the second call setup message and the second call release message is less than three hours.

16. The method of claim 13 the method further comprising:

15 generating and transferring the first call setup message in response to a first user command from a graphical user interface and generating and transferring the second call setup message in response to a second user command from the graphical user interface.

20 17. The method of claim 16 the method further comprising:

transmitting the first user command and the second user command to the graphical user interface from a remote location.

25 18. The method of claim 13 wherein the first call setup message is an initial address message.

19. The method of claim 13 wherein the dedicated communication is a data communication.

20 20. The method of claim 13 wherein the dedicated communication is a private line communication.

25 30 21. The method of claim 13 wherein the dedicated communication is an internet protocol communication.

22. The method of claim 13 wherein the dedicated communication is a frame relay communication.

23. The method of claim 13 wherein the switched communication is a voice communication.

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24. A software product comprising:

dedicated processing system software operational when executed by a processor to direct the dedicated communication system to generate and transfer a first call setup message;

call processing system software operational when executed by the processor to direct the processing system to receive and process the first call setup message to select a first identifier, generate and transfer a first instruction indicating the first identifier and a dedicated communication, receive and process a second call setup message to select a second identifier, and generate and transfer a second instruction indicating the second identifier and a switched communication; and

interworking system software operational when executed by the processor to direct the interworking system to receive the first instruction, the second instruction, and a bundled communication including the dedicated communication and the switched communication, separate the dedicated communication from the switched communication, convert the dedicated communication into first packets including the first identifier in response to the first instruction, convert the switched communication into second packets including the second identifier in response to the second instruction, and transfer the first packets and the second packets.

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the interworking system software is operational to receive the third instruction and the fourth instruction, stop the transfer of the first packets in response to the third message, and stop the transfer of the fourth packets in response to the fourth instruction.

5 26. The product of claim 25 wherein a first time difference between the first call setup message and the first call release message is greater than twenty four hours and a second first time difference between the second call setup message and the second call release message is less than three hours.

10 27. The product of claim 24 further comprising:
graphical user interface software operational when executed on the processor to direct a graphical user interface to generate and transfer the first call setup message in response to a first user command entered into the graphical user interface and generate and transfer the second call release message in response to a second user command entered into the graphical user interface.

15 28. The product of claim 27 wherein the graphical user interface software is operational to direct the graphical user interface to receive the first user command and the second user command from a remote location.

20 29. The product of claim 24 wherein the first call setup message is an initial address message and the second call setup message is an initial address message.

30. The product of claim 24 wherein the dedicated communication is a data communication.

25 31. The product of claim 24 wherein the dedicated communication is a private line communication.

32. The product of claim 24 wherein the dedicated communication is an internet protocol communication.

33. The product of claim 24 wherein the dedicated communication is a frame relay communication.

34. The product of claim 24 wherein the switched communication is a voice communication.